

# WASHINGTON.

## Senator Sumner Contemplating Another Raid on the President.

## The Texas Senatorship—General Reynolds Left Out in the Cold.

## Spirited Debate in the Senate Over Southern Affairs.

## Senator Sherman Goes for the Ku Kluxes.

## Proposal to Limit the Business of Congress.

## General Legislation Discouraged in Both Houses.

## The Condition of Affairs at the South—Senator Sherman Going for the Ku Kluxes.

The debate on the condition of affairs at the South was fairly opened in the Senate to-day on the proposition of Senator Sherman to instruct the Judiciary Committee to report a bill for the suppression of the Ku Klux. Sherman himself delivered the first speech. It was very radical, and took the broad ground that the Ku Klux should be put down by the strong arm of the government. Sherman is not usually an extremist, but on this occasion he was a man of great earnestness, and what he says generally has great weight with his fellow Senators. Many of his colleagues were surprised to find him to be so strong in his denunciation of the Ku Klux, and not a few came to the conclusion that there must be something in it. Sherman informed the Senate, before starting out, that he had given the whole subject a careful, patient investigation, and what he was about to say was the result of his deliberate convictions. He confined himself to a bare recital of facts, without attempting to point out any remedy, except in a general way. The remedy he proposed to leave to the Judiciary Committee. His speech received marked attention, and Mr. Sherman, in reply to Sherman, Senator Stevenson, of Kentucky, replied to Sherman. Unfortunately for him, and for the democratic side of the Senate, he admitted nearly all Sherman had charged. He denied that Kentucky was any worse than other States, and asserted his willingness to hunt down the Ku Klux, if there were any. Sherman turned the tables on him by producing a copy of Stevenson's annual message while Governor of Kentucky, wherein he distinctly admits the existence of bodies of armed men whose combinations are too powerful to be dealt with by the civil law. Bayard, of Delaware, a member of the Southern Outrage Committee, has the floor to-day. Nearly all the Senators both sides of the chamber intend to deliver speeches during the day on this question, and the debate promises to be prolonged for many days.

## The Texas Senatorship—General Reynolds Left Out in the Cold.

The Committee on Privileges and Elections, in their report to-day, say that in pursuance of the several acts of Congress for the reconstruction of the State of Texas, the Legislature convened on the 8th and completed its organization on the 10th of February, 1870. On the second Tuesday after its organization the Legislature elected Mr. Morgan C. Hamilton United States Senator for the term commencing March 4, 1871. The same Legislature, on the same day, elected Mr. Flanagan for the term ending March 3, 1871. These last two elections were to all intents and purposes a confirmation of the previous ones, as the same Senators were re-elected to their seats. By the constitution of Texas there was another session of the same Legislature, after election of Mr. Hamilton and before the expiration of his term. This session commenced on the 10th of January, 1871, and on the second Tuesday after its organization the Legislature proceeded to the election of a Senator for the term commencing March 4, 1871—the same term for which Mr. Hamilton had been elected at the preceding session. General Reynolds was reported to have been elected, although the certificate referred to the committee was not signed by the Governor. The reason assigned for the election of General Reynolds is that the Legislature had no authority to elect Mr. Hamilton at the time of his election. The committee decided, after a long and warm debate, in favor of the election of Mr. Hamilton, thus returning to the position of Mr. Hamilton, that he was precisely like that of Mr. Gilbert, of Florida, elected at the last session. The report was unanimous, and having been adopted by the Senate, Mr. Hamilton will on Monday take his seat.

## Revision of the Laws—Early Completion of the Work Desirable.

Messrs. Abbott and Barringer, members of the State Revising Commission, have addressed a letter to the committees of the Senate and the House on the revision of the laws, recommending some changes in the arrangements for that work, with a view of greater expedition in order to secure the completion of their report before the expiration of the new Congress. They give the following account of what has been accomplished since last fall, when the present body of Commissioners commenced their labors. The result of the winter's labor may be thus stated:

A system of classification, comprising seventy-six titles or heads of statute law, formed, indeed, upon an outline drafted by the former board, has been adopted, and the laws have been arranged in accordance with the titles, and a distinct classification has been made in convenient form for expeditious revision of every existing provision of law deemed appropriate to each head or title of the classification. These collections stand arranged in independent portions, and any one of them may be taken as the basis of revision, without affecting the whole. The classification is so arranged that it includes with a good degree of completeness that which will present or suggest the most important changes to be made, and is so arranged that it is not necessary to be considered in framing that title. Thus, although no title has been completed, an equal and considerable progress has been made upon every one of the several titles, and the work which the Commissioners propose to arrange the entire work. The statute revising the Commission allows till the close of the session, 1872, the result will be that the same body of Commissioners will direct the initial labor of revision will have an opportunity to pass upon the result. This will avoid the disadvantages which have so often proved fatal to extensive plans of law reform, arising from changes in the composition of the legislature. What arrangements are necessary for the revision of the laws will be determined by the Legislature, and the ultimate adoption of the work will probably be promoted by the Commissioners reporting the results of their labors at the opening of the last session of the Forty-second Congress, December, 1872.

## The Mississippi Disturbances Being Investigated.

Governor Ames, of Mississippi, has addressed a telegram to Senator Ames and Representative Morris, of Arkansas, in which he says that he has late orders at Meridian, being recently investigated; that some disturbances have taken place along the Alabama border, but that there is difficulty in discovering the guilty parties, as they were to disguise; that the power of the State government is unable to preserve the peace, and with the excep-

# NEW YORK.

## Democrats Favoring Investigation Into Southern Affairs.

## Senator Sumner Proposes to Make a Speech on the Southern Ku Klux Business.

## Contested Seats in the Senate.

## The Senate Committee on Elections and Privileges.

## Internal Revenue Receipts.

## Currency Statement.

## First Session.

## SENATE.

## WASHINGTON, March 18, 1871.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep. of Mass.) presented a memorial from the colored people of Georgia, representing that they are denied the right of suffrage, and are being persecuted in their rights, and asking protection from Congress. Referred to the Committee on Southern Outrages.

Mr. BAYARD, (rep. of Del.) moved to reconsider the vote on the passage of the bill defining a gross malfeasance in the office of a United States Senator, and proposing to amend it so as to include the office of a Senator.

Mr. KELLOGG introduced bills to revise the navigation and commerce laws of the United States, and proposing to amend them so as to include the office of a Senator.

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# LITERATURE.

## Criticism on New Books.

## Presbyterian Union. Memorial Volume.

## Robert Chambers.

## Obituary.

## A Manual of Ancient History.

## Academy of Music.

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